



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
*Division Director*

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

June 29, 2006

James Lekas  
Lexco Corporation  
P. O. Box 1198  
582 North Vernal Avenue  
Vernal, Utah 84078

Subject: Mine Plan Review (November 7, 2005, Revision), Lexco, Cottonwood Mine, M/047/064, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Lekas:

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining reviewed the referenced mine plan and furnished comments to the Bureau of Land Management by letter dated January 13, 2006. The following items still need to be addressed prior to Division approval:

1. Figure 3 shows the location of the escapeways located at the site. Please describe how these areas will be accessed during final closure to close these openings.
2. Please include a commitment to salvage the upper three inches of soil together with the vegetation. Clayey, salt-affected soils from slickspots should not be salvaged. These areas can be identified by the lack of sagebrush and the presence of mat saltbush. Soil needs to be stockpiled in protected, relatively flat area, and it should be bermed and seeded.
3. Please include the following commitments in the plan: 1. Upon final reclamation, pads and roads will be ripped at least two feet deep. 2. Topsoil will then be applied to the roughened surface. 3. The area will be seeded as soon as possible after surface preparation, and reclamation will be timed so seeding is done in the fall. Because there is little topsoil, distribution will probably be uneven, but it is important that the surface be left very rough.
4. Reclamation surety needs to be posted in the form and amount approved by the Division. The Division is currently discussing options for being named as co beneficiary on the surety currently posted with the Bureau of Land Management.



Jim Lexas  
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If you have questions or concerns about these issues, please contact Paul Baker at 801-538-5261 or me at 801-538-5258. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Susan M. White  
Mining Program Coordinator  
Minerals Regulatory Program

SMW:PBB:pb

cc: James Kohler

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